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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/702,190	11/05/2003	Michael Archer	RIC97077C1	7535

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WorldCom, Inc.
Technology Law Department
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Washington, DC 20036

EXAMINER	
YAO, KWANG BIN	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2667	

DATE MAILED: 11/12/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/702,190	ARCHER, MICHAEL	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Kwang B. Yao	2667	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *09 January 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *20-44* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *20-44* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *20 February 2004* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *3/8/04, 12/31/03*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Double Patenting

1. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970);and, *In re Thorington,* 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

2. Claims 20-28, 41-43 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-8, 21-23 of U.S. Patent No. 6,683,870 in view of Murphy (US 6,754,224).

Claims 20-28, 41-43 of the instant application disclose the following features: regarding claim 20, a method for communication to a called party, comprising: receiving a request for a

call to a telephone number of the called party initiated via a circuit-switched network; determining multiple destinations associated with the called party based on the telephone number; and multicasting respective call notifications over a packet-switched network to the multiple destinations, wherein at least one of the destinations is a communications device coupled to the packet-switched network via a circuit-switched network; regarding claim 21, wherein said at least one of the destinations includes a telephone, pager, or voice mail system; regarding claim 22, wherein the step of determining multiple destinations includes looking up a plurality of Internet Protocol (IP) addresses based on the telephone number; regarding claim 23, wherein the step of multicasting includes multicasting to each of the plurality of œ addresses based on the telephone number; regarding claim 24, wherein at least one of the destinations is a computer device; regarding claim 25, receiving a receipt notification from one of the destinations, and in response to said receiving the receipt notification, canceling the call notification to at least one of the other destinations; regarding claim 26, establishing a communication with at least one of the multiple destinations; regarding claim 27, receiving a call notification for a called party; extracting identification information of the called party from the call notification, determining multiple destinations associated with the called party; multicasting respective call notifications over a packet-switched network to the multiple destinations, wherein at least one of the destinations is a communications device coupled to the packet-switched network via a circuit-switched network; and establishing a communication with more than one of the destinations; regarding claim 28, wherein the established communication comprises an audio communication; regarding claim 41, a method for communication to a called party, the method comprising the steps of: receiving a request for a call to a telephone number of the called party

initiated from a telephone on a circuit-switched network; determining multiple destinations associated with the called party based on the telephone number, multicasting respective call notifications over a packet-switched network to the multiple destinations, and forwarding at least one of the multiple call notifications from the packet-switched network to a device via a circuit-switched network; regarding claim 42, wherein the device is a telephone, pager, or voice mail system; regarding claim 43, wherein the step of forwarding includes translating the digital call notification into an analog signal that causes the corresponding one of the communication devices to ring.

Claims 1-8, 21-23 of U.S. Patent No. 6,683,870 disclose the following features: regarding claim 1, a method for communication to a called party, comprising: receiving a request for a call to a telephone number of the called party initiated from a telephone on a circuit-switched network; determining multiple destinations associated with the called party based on the telephone number; and initiating simultaneous transmission of multiple call notifications over a packet-switched network to the multiple destinations, wherein at least one of the destinations is a telephone, pager, or voice mail system; regarding claim 2, wherein the step of determining multiple destinations includes looking up a plurality of Internet Protocol (IP) addresses based on the telephone number; regarding claim 3, wherein the step of initiating includes simultaneously initiating contact with each of the plurality of IP addresses based on the telephone number; regarding claim 4, wherein at least one of the destinations is a computer device; regarding claim 5, receiving a receipt notification from one of the destinations and, in response, canceling the call notification to each of the other destinations; regarding claim 6, establishing a communication with at least one of the multiple destinations; regarding claim 7, receiving a call notification for a

called party; extracting identification information of the called party from the call notification; determining multiple destinations associated with the called party; initiating simultaneous transmission of multiple call notifications over a packet-switched network to the multiple destinations, wherein at least one of the destinations is selected from a group consisting of a telephone, pager, and voice mail system; and establishing a communication with more than one of the destinations; regarding claim 8, wherein the established communication comprises an audio communication; regarding claim 21, a method for communication over a packet-switched network, the method comprising the steps of: receiving a call notification for a called party; extracting identification information of the called party from the call notification; determining multiple destinations associated with the called party; initiating simultaneous transmission of multiple call notifications over the packet-switched network to the multiple destinations; and forwarding at least one of the multiple call notifications from the packet-switched network to a device via a circuit-switched network; regarding claim 22, wherein the device is a telephone, pager, or voice mail system; regarding claim 23, wherein the step of forwarding include translating the digital call notification into an analog signal that causes the corresponding one of the communication devices to ring.

As stated above, claims 1-8, 21-23 of the U.S. Patent No. 6,683,870 disclose all the claimed limitations of claims 20-28, 41-43 of the instant application, except the features of: regarding claim 20, wherein at least one of the destinations is a communications device coupled to the packet-switched network via a circuit-switched network; regarding claim 27, wherein at least one of the destinations is a communications device coupled to the packet-switched network

via a circuit-switched network; regarding claim 41, receiving a request for a call to a telephone number of the called party initiated from a telephone on a circuit-switched network.

Murphy (US 6,754,224) discloses a packet processing system comprising the following features: regarding claim 20, wherein at least one of the destinations (Fig. 2, phone 30, IP phone handset 32, voice mail system 34) is a communications device coupled to the packet-switched network (Fig. 2, Multicast Network 10) via a circuit-switched network (Fig. 2, the network connected among telephone device 13, endpoint 12, and directory server 30); regarding claim 27, wherein at least one of the destinations (Fig. 2, phone 30, IP phone handset 32, voice mail system 34) is a communications device coupled to the packet-switched network (Fig. 2, Multicast Network 10) via a circuit-switched network (Fig. 2, the network connected among telephone device 13, endpoint 12, and directory server 30); regarding claim 41, receiving a request for a call to a telephone number of the called party initiated from a telephone on a circuit-switched network (Fig. 2, the network connected among telephone device 13, endpoint 12, and directory server 30);. It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of the instant application, by using the features, as taught by Murphy (US 6,754,224), in order to provide an efficient communication system by eliminating the need for contacting each location sequentially or independently. See Murphy (US 6,754,224), column 2, lines 25-28..

3. Claims 29-40, 44 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 9-20, 24 of U.S. Patent No. 6,683,870. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other

because the application's claims merely broaden the scope of the patented claims by not claiming some elements.

The following is the comparison between the patented claims and the claims in the instant application. U.S. Patent No. 6,683,870 claims the following limitations: regarding claim 9, a plurality of converters having a same network address, each converter operable to sample voice signals and create digital packets containing a representation of the voice signals; a storage device containing a database of records, each record including a call list of telephone numbers associated with each of a plurality of subscribers; and a computer system operable, upon receipt of a call notification from a caller to a subscriber, to query the database to retrieve a record associated with the subscriber and initiate simultaneous transmission of digital call notification packets to a plurality of the converters at the same network address, the digital notification packets including information relating to the call list of telephone numbers in the received record; regarding claim 10, wherein each of the converters comprises: at least one modem; a router coupled to the modem; and control circuitry coupled to both the modem and the router; regarding claim 11, wherein the computer system communicates with the converters through an internet; regarding claim 12, wherein the same network address is a same Internet Protocol (IP) address; regarding claim 13, wherein the computer system comprises a plurality of interlinked computers; regarding claim 14, a plurality of communication devices, each communication device coupled to receive a call notification from the caller via one of the converters; regarding claim 15, wherein each converter is also operable to create voice signals from a digital packet; regarding claim 16, means for accessing a plurality of data records in response to a request for call to a telephone number of a subscriber initiated from a telephone on a circuit-switched

network, each data record including a list of addresses of respective communication devices associated with each of a plurality of subscribers; means for initiating simultaneous transmission of digital call notification packets via a packet-switched network, the digital notification packets addressed to each of the addresses associated with a subscriber; and means for forwarding one of the digital call notification packets from the packet-switched network to a corresponding one of communication devices via a circuit-switched network; regarding claim 17, wherein at least some of the addresses comprise telephone numbers; regarding claim 18, wherein at least some of the addresses comprise IP addresses; regarding claim 19, wherein the multiple transmission includes an IP (Internet, Protocol) multicast transmission; regarding claim 20, wherein the means for forwarding is further configured for translating the digital call notification into an analog signal that causes the corresponding one of the communication devices to ring; regarding claim 24, a method for communication over a packet-switched network, the method comprising the steps of: receiving a call notification for a telephone number; determining multiple destinations associated with the telephone number; and initiating simultaneous transmission of multiple call notifications over the packet-switched network to the multiple destinations; and establishing a conference communication with a plurality of the multiple destinations.

The instant application discloses the following limitations: regarding claim 29, a communication system comprising: a plurality of converters having a same network address, each converter operable to sample voice signals and create digital packets containing a representation of the voice signals; a database associating telephone numbers with each of a plurality of subscribers; and a computer system operable, upon receipt of a call notification from a caller to a subscriber, to query the database to retrieve the telephone numbers associated with

the subscriber and multicasting respective digital call notification packets to a plurality of the converters at the same network address, the digital notification packets including information relating to the telephone numbers; regarding claim 30, wherein each of the converters comprises: at least one modem; a router coupled to the modem; and control circuitry coupled to both the modem and the router; regarding claim 31, wherein the computer system communicates with the converters through a packet-switched network; regarding claim 32, wherein the same network address is a same Internet Protocol (IP) address; regarding claim 33, wherein the computer system comprises a plurality of interlinked computers; regarding claim 34, a plurality of communication devices, each communication device coupled to receive a call notification from the caller via one of the converters; regarding claim 35, wherein each converter is also operable to create voice signals from a digital packet; regarding claim 36, means for accessing a database associating addresses of respective communication devices with each of a plurality of subscribers in response to a request for call to a telephone number of a subscriber initiated from a telephone on a circuit-switched network, digital call notification packets via a packet-switched network, the digital notification packets addressed to each of the addresses associated with a subscriber; and means for forwarding one of the digital call notification packets from the packet-switched means for multicasting respective network to a corresponding one of communication devices via a circuit-switched network; regarding claim 37, wherein at least some of the addresses comprise telephone numbers; regarding claim 38, wherein at least some of the addresses comprise IP addresses; regarding claim 39, wherein the multiple transmission includes an IP (Internet Protocol) multicast transmission; regarding claim 40, wherein the means for forwarding is further configured for translating the digital call notification into an analog signal

that causes the corresponding one of the communication devices to ring; regarding claim 44, a method for communication over a packet-switched network, the method comprising the steps of: receiving a call notification for a telephone number; determining multiple destinations associated with the telephone number, and multicasting respective call notifications over the packet-switched network to the multiple destinations, and establishing a conference communication with a plurality of the multiple destinations.

It is clearly seen that the claims 29-40 and 44 of the instant application discloses all the claim limitations in claims 9-20 and 24 of the U.S. Patent No. 6,304,561 but the limitations of: regarding claim 9, a storage device containing a database of records, each record including a call list of telephone numbers associated with each of a plurality of subscribers; regarding claim 16, means for accessing a plurality of data records, each data record including a list of addresses of respective communication devices associated with each of a plurality of subscribers; means for initiating simultaneous transmission of digital call notification packets; regarding claim 24, initiating simultaneous transmission of multiple call notifications.

The application's claims are nearly identical in every other respect to the patent claims. Therefore, the application's claims are simply broader version of the patented claims. It is the examiner's position that broadening the patented claims by not claiming the above elements of the patented claims would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art in view of the patented claims. It is important to note that the instant application is a continuation of the application which yielded the patent (U.S. Patent No. 6,683,870) used herein as the basis for the obviousness type of double patenting rejection. The application is attempting to broaden the

parent application's claims by eliminating some the claimed elements in the continuation at issue here.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. Claim 39 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 39, line 1, "the multiple transmission" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 20-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Murphy (US 6,754,224).

Murphy (US 6,754,224) discloses a system for multicasting call signaling in packet network comprising the following features: regarding claim 20, a method for communication to a called party, comprising: receiving a request for a call to a telephone number of the called party initiated via a circuit-switched network (Fig. 2, the network connected among telephone device 13, endpoint 12, and directory server 30); determining multiple destinations (Fig. 2, phone 30, IP

phone handset 32, voice mail system 34) associated with the called party based on the telephone number; and multicasting respective call notifications (Fig. 2, SETUP) over a packet-switched network (Fig. 2, Multicast Network 10) to the multiple destinations (Fig. 2, phone 30, IP phone handset 32, voice mail system 34), wherein at least one of the destinations is a communications device coupled to the packet-switched network (Fig. 2, Multicast Network 10) via a circuit-switched network (Fig. 2, the network connected among telephone device 13, endpoint 12, and directory server 30); regarding claim 21, wherein said at least one of the destinations includes a telephone, pager, or voice mail system (column 2, lines 22-24; column 3, lines 5-9); regarding claim 22, wherein the step of determining multiple destinations (Fig. 2, phone 30, IP phone handset 32, voice mail system 34) includes looking up (Fig. 2, directory server 30) a plurality of Internet Protocol (IP) addresses based on the telephone number; regarding claim 23, wherein the step of multicasting includes multicasting to each of the plurality of œ addresses based on the telephone number; regarding claim 24, wherein at least one of the destinations is a computer device; regarding claim 25, receiving a receipt notification (Fig. 2, SETUP) from one of the destinations, and in response to said receiving the receipt notification (Fig. 2, SETUP), canceling the call notification (Fig. 2, SETUP) to at least one of the other destinations; regarding claim 26, establishing a communication with at least one of the multiple destinations (Fig. 2, phone 30, IP phone handset 32, voice mail system 34); regarding claim 27, receiving a call notification (Fig. 2, SETUP) for a called party; extracting identification information of the called party from the call notification (Fig. 2, SETUP), determining multiple destinations (Fig. 2, phone 30, IP phone handset 32, voice mail system 34) associated with the called party; multicasting respective call notifications (Fig. 2, SETUP) over a packet-switched network (Fig. 2, Multicast Network 10) to

the multiple destinations (Fig. 2, phone 30, IP phone handset 32, voice mail system 34), wherein at least one of the destinations is a communications device coupled to the packet-switched network (Fig. 2, Multicast Network 10) via a circuit-switched network (Fig. 2, the network connected among telephone device 13, endpoint 12, and directory server 30); and establishing a communication with more than one of the destinations; regarding claim 28, wherein the established communication comprises an audio communication; regarding claim 29, a communication system comprising: a plurality of converters (Fig. 2, PSTN gateway 20, IP phone 22, Voice Mail Server 24) having a same network address (multicast address, see column 4, lines 9-16), each converter (Fig. 2, PSTN gateway 20, IP phone 22, Voice Mail Server 24) operable to sample voice signals and create digital packets containing a representation of the voice signals; a database (Fig. 2, Directory Server 30) associating telephone numbers with each of a plurality of subscribers; and a computer system operable, upon receipt of a call notification (Fig. 2, SETUP) from a caller to a subscriber, to query the database (Fig. 2, Directory Server 30) to retrieve the telephone numbers associated with the subscriber and multicasting respective digital call notification (Fig. 2, SETUP) packets to a plurality of the converters (Fig. 2, PSTN gateway 20, IP phone 22, Voice Mail Server 24) at the same network address (multicast address, see column 4, lines 9-16), the digital notification (Fig. 2, SETUP) packets including information relating to the telephone numbers; regarding claim 30, wherein each of the converters (Fig. 2, PSTN gateway 20, IP phone 22, Voice Mail Server 24) comprises: at least one modem; a router coupled to the modem; and control circuitry coupled to both the modem and the router; regarding claim 31, wherein the computer system communicates with the converters (Fig. 2, PSTN gateway 20, IP phone 22, Voice Mail Server 24) through a packet-switched network (Fig. 2, Multicast

Network 10); regarding claim 32, wherein the same network address (multicast address, see column 4, lines 9-16) is a same lnternet Protocol (IP) address; regarding claim 33, wherein the computer system comprises a plurality of interlinked computers; regarding claim 34, a plurality of communication devices, each communication device coupled to receive a call notification (Fig. 2, SETUP) from the caller via one of the converters (Fig. 2, PSTN gateway 20, IP phone 22, Voice Mail Server 24); regarding claim 35, wherein each converter (Fig. 2, PSTN gateway 20, IP phone 22, Voice Mail Server 24) is also operable to create voice signals from a digital packet; regarding claim 36, means for accessing a database (Fig. 2, Directory Server 30) associating addresses of respective communication devices with each of a plurality of subscribers in response to a request for call to a telephone number of a subscriber initiated from a telephone on a circuit-switched network (Fig. 2, the network connected among telephone device 13, endpoint 12, and directory server 30), digital call notification (Fig. 2, SETUP) packets via a packet-switched network (Fig. 2, Multicast Network 10), the digital notification (Fig. 2, SETUP) packets addressed to each of the addresses associated with a subscriber; and means for forwarding one of the digital call notification (Fig. 2, SETUP) packets from the packet-switched means for multicasting respective network to a corresponding one of communication devices via a circuit-switched network (Fig. 2, the network connected among telephone device 13, endpoint 12, and directory server 30); regarding claim 37, wherein at least some of the addresses comprise telephone numbers (Fig. 2, phone 30); regarding claim 38, wherein at least some of the addresses comprise IP addresses (Fig. 2, IP phone 32); regarding claim 39, wherein the multiple transmission includes an IP (Internet Protocol) multicast transmission (column 3, lines 37-48); regarding claim 40, wherein the means for forwarding is further configured for translating the

digital call notification (Fig. 2, SETUP) into an analog signal that causes the corresponding one of the communication devices (Fig. 2, phone 30) to ring; regarding claim 41, a method for communication to a called party, the method comprising the steps of: receiving a request for a call to a telephone number of the called party initiated from a telephone on a circuit-switched network (Fig. 2, the network connected among telephone device 13, endpoint 12, and directory server 30); determining multiple destinations (Fig. 2, phone 30, IP phone handset 32, voice mail system 34) associated with the called party based on the telephone number, multicasting respective call notifications (Fig. 2, SETUP) over a packet-switched network (Fig. 2, Multicast Network 10) to the multiple destinations (Fig. 2, phone 30, IP phone handset 32, voice mail system 34), and forwarding at least one of the multiple call notifications (Fig. 2, SETUP) from the packet-switched network (Fig. 2, Multicast Network 10) to a device via a circuit-switched network (Fig. 2, the network connected among telephone device 13, endpoint 12, and directory server 30); regarding claim 42, wherein the device is a telephone, pager, or voice mail system (column 2, lines 22-24; column 3, lines 5-9); regarding claim 43, wherein the step of forwarding includes translating the digital call notification (Fig. 2, SETUP) into an analog signal that causes the corresponding one of the communication devices (Fig. 2, phone 30) to ring; regarding claim 44, a method for communication over a packet-switched network (Fig. 2, Multicast Network 10), the method comprising the steps of: receiving a call notification (Fig. 2, SETUP) for a telephone number; determining multiple destinations (Fig. 2, phone 30, IP phone handset 32, voice mail system 34) associated with the telephone number, and multicasting respective call notifications (Fig. 2, SETUP) over the packet-switched network (Fig. 2, Multicast Network 10) to the multiple destinations (Fig. 2, phone 30, IP phone handset 32, voice mail system 34), and establishing a

conference communication (column 3, lines 13-30) with a plurality of the multiple destinations (Fig. 2, phone 30, IP phone handset 32, voice mail system 34). See column 3-6.

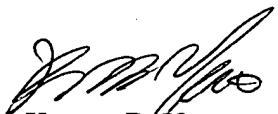
Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kwang B. Yao whose telephone number is 571-272-3182. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi H Pham can be reached on 571-272-3179. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KWANG BIN YAO
PRIMARY EXAMINER



Kwang B. Yao
November 9, 2004